

All Around Pennsauken



VOL. 23, NO. 1

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

January 2018

January Reorganization Public Meeting For Township Committee

The Pennsauken Township Committee will hold its annual reorganization meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 4 at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.

The agenda includes the swearing in of a new mayor, deputy mayor, and committee members, as well as the appointments to various positions. The new committee will then set meeting dates for 2018 for the Township Committee.

All future public meetings, excluding the Reorganization Meeting, are held at the Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., at the corner of Route 130 and Merchantville Ave. at the times specified.

All Around Pennsauken posts these public meetings in each issue. Meeting dates can also be found at the Township web site, twp.pennsauken.nj.us. Changes to the meeting schedule will be advertised in the Courier-Post and Retrospect newspapers and will be posted online via the Township's web site, Facebook page and Twitter feed.

Visit
AllAroundPennsauken.com
for up-to-the-minute news,
community events and exclusive
web content!

Pennsauken School District Holds First Public Meeting On March 13 Bond Referendum

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Last month, the Pennsauken School District held a packed town hall meeting to share information about the upcoming bond referendum designed to make significant improvements to every public school throughout the Township.

During the "Taste of Pennsauken" event, held at the PYAA Field House on Dec. 8, residents enjoyed food from a variety of local restaurants and learned about the proposed initiative, which will allocate almost \$36 million for various projects, while actually reducing school taxes for Pennsauken households.

"In the past, Pennsauken has served about 5,500 students. We currently serve under 5,000 students. A plan of action needs to be put in place to make sure that Pennsauken has a future, not just for teachers, not just for students, but for the town itself," explains Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, superintendent, Pennsauken School District. "We have a full plan that touches on every school in the District."



The PYAA Field House was packed last month, as members of the community learned about the Pennsauken School District's upcoming bond referendum. The event also recognized the accomplishments of longtime resident and educator, Rick Taylor.

The proposed referendum addresses a variety of projects in every part of the District, including new security vestibules at all schools; capital improvements to elementary schools with new windows and

doors; the establishment of all-day pre-school; the demolition of an aging Longfellow Elementary and the erection of a comprehensive community park and

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Angel Tree Helps Dozens Of Families During Holidays

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor



Pennsauken residents, local organizations, and area businesses donated toys to help over 50 families during the holidays through the Angel Tree program.

Thanks to the generosity of the local community, Pennsauken's Angel Tree program was one of the most successful it's ever been. Last month, over 50 families in need were helped during the holidays.

"Each and every year, the Pennsauken community really steps up for the Angel Tree program," says Elwood "Duke" Martz, director of Pennsauken's Parks and Recreation department. "A lot of resi-

dents, businesses, and organizations are extremely generous with a variety of donations. And they came through again this year. Because of their amazing support, children who normally would go without had presents under their Christmas trees."

Angel Tree volunteers see the impact of the program first hand. Larry Cardwell, a longtime Township employee, has helped with the Angel Tree program since 2002.

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JANUARY CALENDAR

Browning Road Senior Club

The Browning Road Senior Club invites local seniors to come and meet on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Meetings are held at Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 Route 130, Pennsauken at 1:00 p.m. Refreshments are served; there will be a short meeting followed by BINGO. For more information, call Pat at (609) 790-6760.

AARP

AARP Chapter 2861 will be meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, at the PYAA Field House, 3501 Elm Ave. Fellowship and coffee starts at 12:30 p.m.; meeting begins

at 1:00 p.m. Musical entertainment and dancing to follow; no need to have a partner, come and enjoy. Tom French Corcett will have everyone up and dancing! Don't forget, January is time to pay dues. Members are asked to bring their national and local AARP cards.

PASA

Please join the Pennsauken Alliance on Substance Abuse (PASA) as they work to educate the community about ways to stop abuse of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. The organization's next meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:00 p.m., at Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 North

Route 130, Pennsauken, NJ 08110.

Town Watch

Pennsauken's Town Watch hosts its next meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:30 p.m., at the Pennsauken Police Department, Second Floor. Come learn how to make our community safer. For more information, call (856) 488-0080 ext. 2417.

American Legion

American Legion Fredrick W. Griggs Post 68 will meet on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 7:00 p.m. These monthly meetings are held at the Merchantville Community Center, 212 Somerset Ave. in Mer-

chantville. All veterans who served during qualifying conflicts are welcome to join. The Post now has an Auxiliary Unit which meets at 6:00 p.m., prior to the Post meeting. Any ladies who are the spouse or the daughter of a veteran are welcome to join.

Bunco "Fun Raiser"

Athene Chapter #201 O.E.S. of New Jersey is hosting a Bunco "Fun Raiser" on Saturday, Jan. 20, 1:00 p.m., at the Merchantville Masonic Lodge, 6926 Park Ave., Pennsauken. Bunco is a social dice game traditionally played with 12 or more players divided into groups of four

trying to score points. Dessert buffet included. Donations are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. For reservations, call Eva at (856) 662-2118.

Wedding And Event Expo

The Camden County Boathouse, 7050 N. Park Dr., Pennsauken, is having a Wedding and Event Expo on Sunday, Jan. 28, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Join us for lots of fun, free admission and free giveaways! Attendees are encouraged to RSVP directly to sparkcreative.wufoo.com/forms/z16sbxmq0h2zss9/.

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On The Job

Helping to connect Pennsauken residents with local companies looking to hire.

Bayada Home Health Care in Pennsauken is looking for certified home health aides and perspective applicants interested in becoming certified aides with Bayada. Please contact Marcia Stanford at (856) 663-1622 or mstanford@bayada.com.

Edison Retail Solutions in Pennsauken has full time positions available: customer service representatives, die cutter operator, mounting operator, planner commercial print kitting fulfillment, forklift operators and material handlers. Contact (630) 338-9655 or e-mail applications or resumes to hr@edisonlitho.com.

Simmons Foods is a leading supplier of poultry, pet and ingredient products and is the largest supplier of store brand wet pet food in North America. Their Pennsauken location has a dozen open positions, from apprentice technician to warehouse forklift driver. For more information, visit simmonsfoods.com/careers.

Inserts East, a leading commercial printer located in Pennsauken, is seeking candidates for a junior printing role, which assists in a wide range of production activities. The press assistant will remove bundles from the press, count bundles placed on skids and perform tasks such as cleaning or changing press equipment for a new run. Day and night shifts are available. If interested please email hr1@insertseast.com or pick up application at 7045 Central Highway, Pennsauken, NJ.

SolidSurface Designs in Pennsauken is currently looking for experienced countertop installers, helpers, stone fabricators and stone polishers. Please contact Joe at (856) 910-7720 or email at joe@ssdtops.com.

ACCU Staffing Services in Pennsauken is now hiring Warehouse/Production Workers in the Camden County area. Long-term positions with room for growth available! For more information, call (856) 662-2727, e-mail Pennsauken@accustaffing.com or visit 6000 Rte. 38 East Pennsauken, NJ 08109 to apply on-the-spot!

Primerica in Pennsauken is offering a unique entrepreneurial opportunity to START PART-TIME. Get paid for helping others and begin building a business in the financial services industry! For more information, call (856) 910-1100 or visit www.primerica.com/ellis.

Barry Callebaut is the world's leading supplier of high-quality chocolate and cocoa products. Its Pennsauken location has multiple positions in food manufacturing, including machine operators, material handlers, food sanitation helpers and maintenance mechanics. To apply for a position, please visit the site at 1500 Suckle Hwy, Pennsauken NJ weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pepsi Cola and Canada Dry in Pennsauken is hiring merchandisers for Pepsi and CDL-A drivers for Canada Dry. To apply, please fax your resume to (856)661-4684, email it to HRPennsauken@hongrp.com, or stop by the following location to drop one off or complete an application: 8191 N Crescent Blvd, Pennsauken, NJ 08110.

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New York Life in Mount Laurel is looking to fill two positions. College juniors or seniors can join our fall/spring eight-week internship program; they are also hiring agents/financial advisors. No experience required, but you must have a winning attitude and a strong customer service focus. Contact Christina today at (856) 787-4758 or e-mail your resume to: cblackburn01@ft.newyorklife.com.

For more information, e-mail edev@twp.pennsauken.nj.us

EDITOR'S DESK A Lot To Be Thankful For In The New Year

EDITOR'S
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,
AAP Editor

This month marks my sixth year as editor of All Around Pennsauken. Where has it all gone? I guess time really does fly when you're having fun.

I remember the first "big" story: South Jersey native and major league pitcher Andrew Bailey held a fundraiser at Pinsetter Bar and Bowl. It was loud. I did get a chance to talk to former Philadelphia Eagle Vince Papale and Mitch Williams, long removed from his role as the Phillies' closer. I still remember that pitch to Joe Carter in '93. He got smoked again by Carter at those very same bowling lanes quite a few years back.

During my time with the paper, there

have been ribbon cuttings, ground breakings, award ceremonies, and community events. I think we've done a pretty good job providing a snap shot of the people and organizations that make Pennsauken the great community that it is.

There have been a couple of sad stories too. As we all get older, we lose some pretty special people along the way. Marie Giebel. Howard M. Phifer. Kevin Sochanchak. Bernadette Bierbach. Mary DiSabato. Carol Fowler. Al Segrest. Mark Fillari. Dr. Earl Rippie, Jr. These are the types of people who will continue to inspire us every day, even though they're only with us in our hearts and minds.

And speaking of people, there are quite a few I'd like to thank. The newspaper's got some great columnists: Judith Kristen, Bob Wagner, Bob Fisher-

Hughes, Kat Harvey, Sonny DiSabato, and Rachael Shugars. Each month, they provide some great content and very unique points of view. I think we're very lucky to have them. Kristen Weber and Ryan Wachter do a great job taking photos for us. There's also Mario Daulerio, Jr., our paper's publisher, and Rich Wilson, our graphic designer. Each month, they're in the trenches, working diligently to help get All Around Pennsauken to the printer on time and at your door in the beginning of each month.

Thank you to the Pennsauken School District for the content on the School Pages. I know families love to see their hard-working, talented children highlighted in newspaper print. There are a lot of exciting things happening in Pennsauken's schools. It's great that we can share them with the community.

There's also the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission, and the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority; their contributions help keep people informed about what's happening with the utilities. It's not always "flashy," but it's extremely important.

Thank you to the Lions Club, the Boy Scouts, the Merchantville Woman's Club, the Pennsauken Chapter of AARP, American Legion Post 68, and all the other local organizations that share their meetings and events. We hope that you continue to gain new members and that you see continued success in this new year.

In a special way, I'd like to thank my wife and kids, who put up with newspaper proofs scattered throughout the house and late hours at the kitchen and dining room tables. This isn't possible

without you. You inspire me to do my very best; and I truly appreciate the sacrifices you make that allow me to do a job that I love.

And finally thank you to our readers. Thank you for picking up the paper each and every month; for your understanding when we get it wrong; and for your helpful suggestions when it comes to editorial content. We take your comments to heart and we will continue to do our best to provide a community newspaper that's worth reading.

I'm excited for 2018. As editor, I've got a few things planned – both online and in print – which I think you'll like. Be sure to stay tuned. There's a lot of great news out there about Pennsauken and the wonderful people who live here; we're honored to be able to share it with you.

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No Expense Spared Here And It Shows! Home Features New Beautiful 3/4" Mocha Hardwood Flooring Throughout, Magnificent Kitchen With Gorgeous Quartz Countertops, Light Soft Close Cabinets, New Frigidaire Stainless Appliance Package, Fantastic Center Island, And All New Recessed Lighting. Both Full Baths Have Been Totally Remodeled. All Four Bedrooms Are A Good Size. New Roof, New Siding, New Windows, New Heater, New H/W Heater, New Electrical Service AND MUCH MUCH MORE! \$279,900



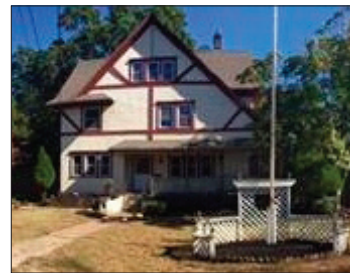
Pennsauken – Opportunity Awaits!!

This Fabulous Two Story Colonial Is Located In The Beautiful Bloomfield Section Of Town. Home Has Lots Of Great Features. Heater & AC Are Newer, Newer Roof, And Most Windows Are Pella. You Can Kick Back And Relax In The FR, Which Features A Cozy Fireplace And Sliders Leading To The Nice Sized Yard. There Is Also A Full High Basement That Can Be Finished Off For Additional Living Space. Home Does Need Some TLC But That's Reflected In The Price. Make An Offer Today And Make This Home Yours. \$159,900



Pennsauken

This Rancher can easily be converted back to a 3 bedroom by simply closing one wall! Don't be fooled this property has endless possibilities with a living and dining room on the main level, and 23X12 Bonus room off of the kitchen overlooking the large lush deep flat lot. The Bonus Room has steps that lead to the additional living space in the basement. New Roof installed 2016, New Hot Water Heater installed 2016, and most Windows replaced 2009. Rainsoft Water Treatment System installed in 2012. \$134,900



Merchantville – Magnificent Tudor

Magnificent Tudor 3 Story Colonial Features 6 Bedrooms 2 1/2 bath, Living, Dining room 2 gas Fireplaces, Very large bedrooms, office space, Hardwood Floors throughout, Rear Deck & Sunroom Overlooking Inground Pool, Eat-In Kitchen W Sky-Light, private yard behind the pool and much more! \$182,900



Pennsauken – REDUCED!

Pride Of Ownership shows in this very well maintained Bloomfield Split featuring large formal Living Room And Dining Room which are great for entertaining, Three spacious bedrooms with ample closet space, and a cozy Family Room with sliders leading to the fenced in back yard. Yard features a nice covered patio, shed, and gazebo. Nothing to do here but move in and enjoy. \$174,900



Pennsauken – Bloomfield

Large Cape Cod with 4-5 bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms there is enough room for the entire family. There is an addition off of the kitchen with a full bathroom that could be used as a master bedroom or family room. The finished basement comes with a bar and plenty of room to do whatever suits your needs. To make the property even more appealing it comes with a 2.5 car detached garage. Make your appointment today. This one will not last long! \$169,900



Pennsauken – Priced For A QUICK SALE!

This 4 Bedroom Home In Meadowbrook Is A Great Buy! Whether Its To Live In, For A Flip, Or Investment You Will Not Lose. This Home Features Great Sized Rooms, Hardwood Floors, A Finished Basement, Nice Sized Yard And Much More. Price Reflects Condition And Property Will Be Sold In "As Is" Condition. Purchaser Will Be Responsible For Any And All Repairs. With A Little Paint And Carpet You Can Make This Home Your Own! \$124,900



Pennsauken – Great Potential!

This Ranch home has great potential! 3 bedrooms and a full bath on the main floor. Eat in kitchen, spacious living room with a large picture window for warm sunlight. The home offers hard wood floor throughout and plenty of closet space and a full basement. This home is being so as is. The seller will make no repairs and the buyer is responsible for obtaining the Certificate of Occupancy from Pennsauken township and making any repairs required by the lender. Home inspection is for informational purposes only. 203k Buyers, Cash Buyers and Investors would be ideal. This will not last long!!!! \$84,900



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WAGSWORLD

Modern Man And The Talking Girl In The Phone

By Bob Wagner, AAP Columnist

I am now a member of the "in crowd." I possess a cell phone that does not flip. It is the Swiss Army Knife of cell phones, with so many little boxes on the screen, I can hardly see the ocean in the background. A talking girl lives in my phone, and I can give her orders, unlike the bride. I can tell her to "call Jones." I don't say please anymore, because she told me last time that neither Jones, nor I, had any peas. She suggested I go to my shopping app, order more peas, both frozen and canned, and the store would deliver them. Then she told me I had plenty of carrots, sweet potatoes, and Brussels sprouts, but the stuffing I hid in the back of the fridge had turned bad, and should be thrown out.

I have an app to find the closest store that stocks mangos; maps and directions to the store; coupons for the store's shopping club; and recipes to cook the various goodies purchased. I am overwhelmed!

My phone can tune my guitar. It has Google Maps with satellite photos of my favorite fishing holes. It has different ring tones for incoming calls from my "favs,"

and it remembers birthdays, anniversaries, upcoming musical concerts, and when my truck needs inspection. It has an alarm clock to wake me, a coffee maker, a juice dispenser, and a waffle maker. It takes pictures and videos, and sends them all over the world, even if they are just shots of my knees and feet. My phone does all this, then saves it all on my personal cloud. I do have to pick what cloud first; I can't decide on cumulus, cirrus, or stratus.

I have a few extra icons scrolled across my huge screen that I have yet to decipher. I will tap on them at a later time when I am bored, don't want to talk to the girl in my phone, or know what the traffic is like in D.C., or Tampa.

I do have a small problem with my new phone that is somewhat embarrassing to admit. I have a hard time making phone calls. The phone portion of this amazing new machine goes to contacts, or "favs," upon opening. "Favs" are, I suspect, my most recently called folk. When my big, fat, sausage fingers try to tap out

who I want to call, all hell breaks loose. The talking girl gets involved, ads for stuff I don't want to buy pop up, and the whole thing starts to vibrate. If I am at home, I drop the new phone, and use the land line. If I am in my truck, I drop it, and drive to whomever I was trying to call.

Soon, the girly girls tell me, they will help me make everything better, vis-à-vis phone calls. 'Til then, I keep the new toy in my huge, down-filled vest, because that garment has the biggest pockets of all my clothes. Shortly, I will have the talking girl order me some new clothes that have bigger pockets. Right now, she is busy cleaning the coffee maker and talking to the bride's phone, making a date for the high school music performance, buying tickets, and setting up parking. After that is all finished, she will direct me to the Apple store, where lessons are being held to figure out what all the extra icons are for. Then, the talking girl and I are going to lunch. She said it is somewhere quiet and out of the way, so the bride won't bump into us, and get jealous.

Phil Morgan Honored As Pennsauken Lions' 2017 Citizen Of The Year



Phil Morgan, current president of the Pennsauken Youth Athletic Activities (P.Y.A.A.), was honored as the Pennsauken Lions Club's Citizen of the Year for 2017. Morgan is seen here with Ely Mateo, Pennsauken Lions Club president, and Clarence Brown, Lions Club District 16-L governor.

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Goodwill Hosts Annual Bridal Sale Extravaganza

The running of the brides tradition at Goodwill continues in 2018! Goodwill will host its annual Valentine's Bridal & All That Glitters Sale on Saturday, Feb. 10 at its Pennsauken, N.J. store, located at 5461 Route 70. The sale will run from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Gently-used gowns start at just \$49. And new bridal gowns

from designers like Alfred Angelo, Maggie Sottero and Nicole Miller start at just \$99. Looking for a mother of the bride gown, a special occasion dress or bridal accessories? Goodwill will have those too at great prices.

Beyond savings, shopping Goodwill supports a worthy cause. Proceeds from

this fundraising shopping extravaganza fund Goodwill's job training programs and career services that prepare individuals with disabilities or disadvantages for competitive employment in the community. For more information, please call (856) 439-0200 or visit www.goodwillnj.org.

Police Ask Public To Be Aware Of Phone Scams

The Pennsauken Police Department continues to alert residents about several "phone scams" that make the rounds through our community in order to prevent them from being taken advantage of.

Loved One Phone Scam

The caller will report that a loved one has been either arrested and in need of bail or injured in some type of accident. The caller then makes a request for monies to be sent, usually by way of gift card or money transfer. This type of call can seem scary and all too real, but it's a ploy designed to prey on your emotions.

Debt Collection Scam

A caller will report that you are indebted to them for a variety of reasons and in an effort to settle the debt, the caller seeks all pertinent biographical information and demands monies be sent immediately. The current target population appears to be seniors and persons that speak English as a second language.

IRS Phone Scam

As tax time begins, residents continue receiving a message via "robocall." The phone message claims that it is a final notice from the Internal Revenue Service regarding a lawsuit against the resident. The message refers to a phone number to contact. Do not call this number! When you have a tax problem, the IRS will first contact you by mail, not by phone. The IRS will not demand immediate payment or threaten residents with arrest, deportation or revoking their driver's license. To confirm that this information is incorrect, you can contact the IRS directly by calling 1 (800) 829-1040 to speak with one of their representatives.

Fundraising Phone Scams

Several residents have been contacted over the phone by individuals claiming to be fundraising for the Pennsauken Police or Fire Department. This is actually a phone scam that makes the rounds every few months.

None of the local public safety organizations: police, fire or EMS, call residents as part of a fundraising campaign.

Tips On Avoiding Phone Scams

Please be diligent when someone asks for your personal information. Always verify what is being told to you. Check with the loved one reportedly in trouble or check with your financial institution should someone

claim that you owe them a debt. And never, ever give out your credentials over the telephone.

If you encounter any such "phone scam" please contact the Pennsauken Police Department at (856) 488-0080.

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We Are Pennsauken



Pennsauken Township is currently working on a new billboard design highlighting some of our community's great and diverse student body. This billboard will go up right along the Airport Circle. Stay tuned!

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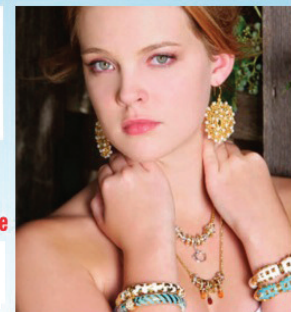
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Woof! Woof! It's Not Too Late For Dog Licenses

By Loverboy, Faithful Dog of AAP Editor, Frank Sinatra

My daddy's letting me have my own article this month! He wanted me to let you know about dog licenses. I'm a dog. I have a license. I'm kind of an expert.

According to something you humans call a "code book," any dog that lives in Pennsauken, is seven months old or older, and has a set of permanent teeth, needs a license. And while it's a little metal tag that we dogs wear around our collar, it's a pretty big deal.

Dog licenses aren't just for keeping track of all the awesome puppies big and small that live in town; they can be used to help find your favorite four-legged friend if they get out of the backyard.

And the money you pay for your dog license, a real bargain by the way, doesn't just go to process the application. A portion of the fee goes to Pennsauken's doggie "trust fund," which helps pay for things like free vaccination clinics.

It's still not too late to get a license for your dog. Your furry kid, as well as other dogs in need, will thank you for it.

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By Gene Padalino
Township of Pennsauken Clerk

Application for 2018 Dog Licences

Name of Owner _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Cell No. _____ Number of Dogs at this address _____

Dog's Name _____

M/F _____ Dog's Age _____ Breed _____

Length of Dog's Hair (Circle one) SHORT MEDIUM LONG

Color and Markings _____

Altered (Circle one) Yes / No Date _____

Rabies Inoculation Expiration Date _____

As of the first Monday in February, all dog license renewals are late and a \$10 late fee will be assessed.

FEES: \$12 if the dog has been spayed or neutered (altered)/\$15 if not spayed or neutered (altered). Renew by mail: fill out form and enclose a check or money order for the exact amount made payable to the Township of Pennsauken and mail it to Attn: Twp. Clerk's Office, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. Pennsauken, NJ 08110. **Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope and copies for proof of rabies inoculation.** Renew in person between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Township Clerk's office. Any questions please call 856-665-1000 x122.

State regulations consider a dog's vaccination valid only if it DOES NOT expire before Nov. 1 of the current year and failure to obtain or renew a dog license could result in a court summons.

For advertising rates & information call 662-5100 or email allaroundpenn@aol.com

Please Return Borrowed Wheelchairs To Township



Pennsauken Township offers wheelchairs and walkers for seniors in temporary need of them. Currently, all of these wheelchairs are out. Anyone who has borrowed a wheelchair or walker and is done with them is asked to return them as quickly as possible so that other seniors can use them. The Township is also accepting donations of wheelchairs and walkers in good condition that are no longer in use.

For additional information, call Pennsauken's senior citizen coordinator at (856) 665-1000 x125.

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Pennsauken Police's Nettleton Sworn In As Captain

At December's public meeting of the Township Committee, John Nettleton was officially sworn in as a captain of the Pennsauken Police Department.

"It's a huge honor for me," says Nettleton. "I hope that my work in the everyday operations of the department will help to provide the best services to

the residents of the Township."

"John is a great guy and an excellent officer," adds Bill Orth, member of Pennsauken's Township Committee and the director of public safety. "He truly deserves this."

Captain Nettleton took his oath in front a large crowd of supporters, including family, friends, fellow officers and other first responders.

"It was extremely humbling," says Nettleton. "My first partner from the police academy; friends of mine from the

prosecutor's office of Camden County; the Sheriff's Department; Chief Palumbo; and my fellow officers all came out here tonight. I really appreciate their being here."

Nettleton has been on the force in Pennsauken since July 1, 1996. Last May, he was a recipient of the Richard Dawson Award for Meritorious Service, which annually honors officers that demonstrate exemplary performance of duty. In 2016, he received the Chief's Award for Leadership for his work with

Team Pennsauken, riding his bicycle from Galloway Township to Washington, D.C. during the Police Unity Tour, in remembrance of fallen Pennsauken

Township police officers.

Congratulations to Captain Nettleton; thank you for your service to the Pennsauken community.



Last month, John Nettleton was officially sworn in as a captain of the Pennsauken Police Department.

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Angel Tree Helps Dozens Of Families During Holidays *continued from page 1*

"Every year, I get to see firsthand the surprise, the gratitude and even some tears when the bell rings, the door opens, and I hand large bags of Christmas gifts to a resident," says Cardwell. "What an incredible way for people to ensure that others that can use a little help for their family receive exactly what they need. This program always gets me in the Christmas spirit and I am so glad to play a small part."

Several individuals, groups, and businesses provided financial assistance to help the Angel Tree program purchase toys for needy families, including the Pennsauken-Merchantville Area Chamber of Commerce (P.M.A.C.), the employees who work at the Pennsauken Township Municipal Building, Gross-Hollinshead VFW Post 1270 Auxiliary, Kathleen Yanzuk, Mike O'Brien, Pamela

Diggs, Michelle Romvary, and others who wished to remain anonymous. In addition, Physician and Tactical Healthcare Services, LLC (P.A.T.H.S.) made a very generous donation that enabled the program to help even more families this holiday season.

Others groups donated new, unwrapped toys to the Angel Tree program. The giving kicked off with a toy donation drive, held by members of P.M.A.C. at the Pennsauken Country Club, and extended throughout the month of December. Thanks also go to Saint Stephen's Roman Catholic Church, Bombardier Transportation, PYAA, the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission, as well as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (S.J.A.C.), all of whom helped create another record toy

collection for the Angel Tree program this year. In addition, Michael Bruce, owner of Michael Bruce Florist in Pennsauken, found a unique way to turn a traditional offering from house guests into something that benefits a variety of local charities.

"I noticed an over abundance of wine bottles that had accrued when guests

would bring us a house present. From then on, I asked people to bring us an unwrapped child's toy instead of a bottle of wine," explains Bruce. "Every present we brought over for Pennsauken's Angel Tree program represents what would have been a bottle of wine. So our houseguests are still spreading cheer in their own way!"

"We thank each and every person, business, and community group that made the Angel Tree program a tremendous success," says Betsy McBride, mayor of Pennsauken Township for 2017. "Our town is filled with generous people who truly care about their neighbors. It's a wonderful way to cap off the season of giving and the perfect start to a new year."

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS Pennsauken's Joyce Sworn In As Superior Court Judge

Michael E. Joyce, a Pennsauken resident who had served as solicitor for Pennsauken Township for nine years, was sworn in as a New Jersey superior court judge last month.

Joyce, who worked at the Law Offices of Timothy J. Higgins in Cherry Hill, had previously served as Pennsauken's municipal prosecutor for 14 years, as well as solicitor for the Township's Sewerage Authority, Housing Authority, and Rent Stabilization Commission. He was nominated for the superior court by New Jersey Governor Chris Christie in early December and vetted by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

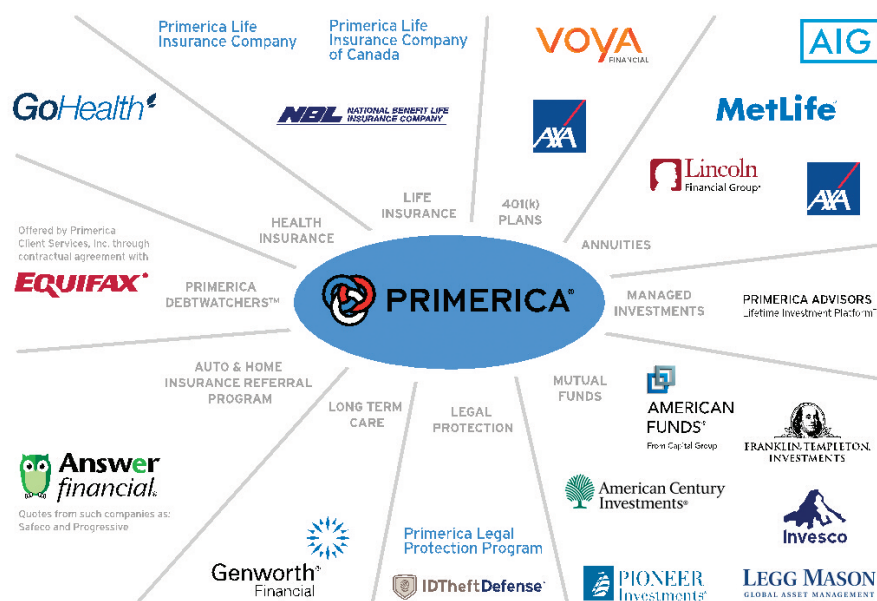
"We thank Mike for his many years of dutiful service as our town's solicitor and we wish him much success in his new role



Pennsauken resident Michael E. Joyce was sworn in as a New Jersey superior court judge. as a superior court judge," says Betsy McBride, member of Pennsauken's Township Committee who served as the town's mayor for 2017.

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PMAC Welcomes Bayada Home Health Care At January Luncheon

Tom Sibson and Tom Cassidy from Bayada Home Health Care are the guest speakers at the upcoming Pennsauken-Merchantville

Area Chamber of Commerce (P.M.A.C.) networking luncheon on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Marco's at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Hadonfield Rd.

Sibson, the company's chief financial officer, and Cassidy, the director of procurement and facilities, will be speaking about their move to Pennsauken Township. Sign-in begins at 11:30 a.m. on Jan. 10,

with the meeting starting at noon. Admission is \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members. Attendees are asked to

R.S.V.P. to Nancy Ellis at (856) 438-0833 or pmac1team@gmail.com by Monday, Jan. 8.



Thanks to the generosity of its members and the local community, the Pennsauken-Merchantville Area Chamber of Commerce was able to make a \$500 donation to the Township's Angel Tree program, which helps families in need during the holiday season.

La Cocina Latin Cuisine Opens On Westfield Avenue

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

On Dec. 9, in the midst of Pennsauken's first snow fall of the season, Westfield Ave. was filled with warmth and holiday spirit. Dozens of Pennsauken residents celebrated the opening of the newest food destination in town, La Cocina Latin Cuisine.

Before the ribbon cutting, the building was already abuzz with workers prepping food dishes and getting warm coffee for guests. People came in groups awaiting the event. The smells were indescribable, but still brought in a flood of memories of my own childhood, eating my Puerto Rican grandmother's home cooking.

The restaurant offers great seating areas with plenty of room for large or small groups. The workers moved quickly and carefully amongst the crowd, serving customers and beaming the same excitement as everyone else. And the brightly lit fluorescent blue signage on the front of the building adds a perfect pop of color right near the intersection of Browning and Westfield.

Brothers and co-owners Lisandro and Wilkins Garcia wanted to create a place where residents could come and get good, quality Latin comfort food without having to leave town. Wilkins lives right around the corner from the restaurant. Lisandro explained to me how his uncle, who owns a number of establishments in the Bronx, taught him everything he knows about running a business and doing it well. In fact, he was the encouraging factor in Lisandro and Wilkins taking the steps to bring La Cocina to town.

"We serve food common to the islands, Dominican style foods. Healthy choices like fish. My favorite is pollo a la



Betsy McBride, mayor of Pennsauken for 2017, helped brothers Lisandro and Wilkins Garcia officially cut the ribbon on La Cocina Latin Cuisine on Westfield Ave.

parrilla [grilled chicken]," says Lisandro. "This is just the start. Pennsauken is expanding and we would like to contribute to that by opening more businesses and rehabbing old properties."

Betsy McBride, mayor of Pennsauken for 2017, was there to help cut the ribbon with the Garcia brothers. "It's a great, snowy day to be opening La Cocina with this ribbon cutting," says McBride. "It's great transformation of old, dead space and it's great that we get to enjoy wonderful food. It's also an opportunity for us to come together as a community."

My husband and I ordered a few platters to go and were far from disappointed. La Cocina is a great addition to town and Pennsauken is happy to have them. Best of luck now and in the future to the entire staff and family!

La Cocina is located at 5010 Westfield Ave. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. For more information, visit "La Cocina Latin Cuisine" on Facebook.

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SENIORCORNER Energy Assistance, Preventive Services Available For Seniors

By Sonny DiSabato,
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors. Hoping all is well.
You may be eligible for some help

keeping your home warm during the winter, thanks to several government-sponsored programs.

The Home Energy Assistance Program is a federally funded program, providing one-time aid to low income households for their heating costs. Even if these costs are included as part of an individual's rent, they may still be eligible to receive aid. Applications are accepted now

through April 1. Benefit eligibility is dependent upon income guidelines and whether or not you're responsible for paying for their heat. The Home Energy Assistance Program is administered by the Department of Community Affairs.

Created by New Jersey's Board of Public Utilities, the Universal Service Fund helps low-income households pay for their electric and natural gas bills. To qualify, a household must be income eligible based on program guidelines and spend more than three percent of household income on gas and/or electricity.

The Lifeline Utility Assistance Program helps eligible low-income senior citizens and the disabled with their electric and natural gas costs. Homeowners and renters can apply for Lifeline by filling out the Pharmaceutical Assistance for the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) application.

The Temporary Relief For Utility Expenses (TRUE) program was designed to help low to moderate income households to pay their natural gas and electric bills. This program provides benefits only to income eligible households who have not

received assistance through the Universal Service Fund or the Home Energy Assistance Program in the past 12 months, have a notice of overdue payment for gas or electric service, and have a good payment history on their utility bills.

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps elderly, handicapped and low-income persons to weatherize their homes, improving their heating system efficiency and conserving energy. Eligible recipients will receive both an energy audit and installation of the recommended energy efficiency measures at no cost. The program is available year round to New Jersey residents.

For more information on these and other programs that benefit seniors and the disabled, visit Camden County O.E.O. at 5287 Rt. 70, Pennsauken. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Residents can also call the office at (856) 910-1180.

Wishing you good health and happiness in the New Year. Please say a prayer for our military to come home safe and soon.

Tax Help Available At Pennsauken Library In February

The Pennsauken Free Public Library is once again hosting AARP Tax Help sessions. This free service begins on Thursday, Feb. 1, in the Library's Community Room and will be offered Wednesday and Thursdays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., through April 12.

Residents taking advantage of this service need to bring last year's completed return with them. In addition, residents will need to bring a photo ID, their social security card, and the social security information of any dependents.

Beginning Jan. 2, residents can set up an appointment by calling (856) 477-3342 and leaving your name, phone number, and best time to be contacted. Someone will call back to set up an appointment; these individuals are not tax preparers and cannot answer tax questions. Please note that you CANNOT call the Library to schedule a time to have your taxes done. If you do not set up an appointment via phone, tax preparation is done on a first come, first served basis, with preference given to seniors.



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GRAYMATTERS

Smiles And A Few Laughs To Kick Off 2018

By Judith Kristen, AAP Columnist

Wow! Here we are, January 1, 2018. Seems like just yesterday it was 2017.

Oh, wait... it was.

Let me start this over again.

The New Year is now upon us and it's a time for reflection, anticipation, resolutions, and hopefully, a good sense of humor to deal with all of those things.

Humor for me is everything. And the first person I laugh at is myself. It's not that I take life lightly... but I love life so much that I find something to smile, laugh, or chuckle about every day. Why not? It sure beats the alternative. And I know the alternative far too well.

One thing I continually find humor in is my attempt at New Year's Resolutions. I mean, when I say I wanna' start the year out with a few good laughs, what better way to do it?

Let me give you an idea of my New Year decrees of years gone by. The first year I ever made a resolution was way back in 1964... when I resolved to marry George Harrison. But if he wasn't available, Paul McCartney would do. That didn't work out... I just thought I'd let you know that.

By 1974, I had four children and I

vowed I would drop 20 pounds by year's end, only to realize that by the time I completed writing that "resolution list," I had finished off a half-pound box of Whitman's Sampler.

In 1975, I gave myself two options that pertained to 1974. Option A: lose 20 pounds. Option B: buy bigger clothes. Need I say more? You get the drift. And anyway, bigger clothes are comfy.

So, here it is: another year to get it right, or to forget about getting anything right, except the necessities, and just go out and have many a good time making lots and lots of happy memories with those you love!

By George, I think she's finally got it!

No need for me to second guess this year's resolutions!

And now that the year 2018 has started its official run, I wish you all a year filled with love, joy, harmony, good health, balance, peace, adventure and fun, and something to be grateful for, every single day, until I get to wish you a happy 2019!

Peace and love... and all good things in the New Year!

~ Love, Judy

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Pennsauken Board Of Education Recognizes High School Seniors

The Pennsauken Board of Education recently recognized high school seniors David Raymond, Kaitlyn McGowan, Nicole Alfano, and Ronald Estevez as students of the month.

David has a GPA of 4.5; is president of the National Honor Society; and a member of the Spanish Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Science Honor Society, Leo Club, and Go Brighten a Day Club. He is the captain of the varsity soccer and golf teams. Raymond is applying to Haverford College and plans to major in Physics or Engineering.

Kaitlyn has a GPA of 4.4 and serves as student government secretary; she is a member of the National Honor Society, and Leo Club. She has also been a Renaissance Gold Card Member for all four



Pennsauken High School seniors David Raymond and Kaitlyn McGowan, seen here with their families and PHS Assistant Principal Jon Reising, were honored at the November Board of Education meeting as students of the month. Seniors Nicole Alfano and Ronald Estevez were recognized at the December meeting.

years. Kaitlyn is the captain of the varsity soccer and softball teams and was named second all conference for soccer and first all conference for softball. McGowan has

applied to The College of New Jersey and would like to major in Business Administration and minor in Marketing.

Nicole has a GPA of 4.32; is a member of the National Honor Society, Latin Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Leo Club. She is a Renaissance Gold Card Member and participates in both the marching band and indoor color guard. Nicole has cooked breakfast for the homeless at St. Paul's Church in Camden and has volunteered at the American Red Cross blood drive. Alfano has applied to Drexel University, Rutgers New Brunswick, Rowan University, Georgia Institute of Technology,

and Lehigh University; she plans to study Mechanical Engineering.

Ronald has a GPA of 4.44 and is a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, Leo Club, and Newspaper Club. He is on the bowling team and is current vice president of the Junior Classical League. Ronald has volunteered at the Cathedral Kitchen and his favorite subject is Calculus. Estevez would like to attend any of the following colleges: Rutgers, Lehigh University, or Fordham University. He wants to major in Mechanical Engineering or Computer Science.

Congratulations to these great students!



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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi,
MED², M.S., M.B.S., Ed.D.,
Superintendent,
Pennsauken Public Schools

As we turn the page on 2017 and enter a brand new year, I would like to first thank the educators and students for their hard work during this semester and tell you another great story about three of our students in Pennsauken Public Schools. Quite a few college coaches have come to meet with our athletic staff to discuss our student athletes. Here are examples of when hard work meets desire to achieve.

Let me begin with a young man by the name of Terrence Phillips. Terrence was our starting cornerback this past year, has a 4.16 GPA, and is ranked 12th in his class. Terrence has never received a B on his report card, made the All-Academic Team, and is a three-sport varsity athlete: football, basketball, and

December's End And A Focus On The Future In 2018

track. The second student is Remy Martinez. Remy is a hard worker and is focused. He spends countless hours training in our weight room because he chooses to; he understands that rewards are not given out, they are earned. He has earned a 3.65 GPA, an 1150 on his SAT, and made First Team All-Conference. Lastly, I would like to draw your attention to Nahzir Russell, who had an outstanding season this past year in football, accumulating accolades such as Second Team All-South Jersey, First Team All-Conference, and the All Touchdown Club. We house great young minds and athletes here in Pennsauken Schools; and here are just three of many examples. Pennsauken Public Schools is an educational opportunity for students academically, vocationally, and athletically. We have some of the brightest minds and best athletes our country has to offer. I hope you will join us as a member of our proud and powerful community.

The Future Of Pennsauken Public Schools

As we move forward with our referendum, I would like to thank the public for coming out on Dec. 8, as we honored a local legend, Mr. Rick Taylor. It was an incredible and inspirational time; and I would like to thank Pennsauken for the opportunity to be part of such a momentous event in this township.

I would like to also remind the public that we have several events scheduled to inform the community about the upcoming referendum. On Saturday, Feb. 10, we will be promoting the referendum and honoring another great educator, Mr. Dennis Armento, a Pennsauken High School teacher who passed away in 2016. We'll provide additional details closer to the event on Pennsauken.net. On March 10, we will be meeting at the Pennsauken Country Club on Haddonfield Rd., just three days before this historic vote.

Please come out and join us to hear about how we will put close to \$36 million into our district and decrease taxes by \$11.06. Remember, this referendum is not just for one building; it completes the entire district. Some of the changes include a full day pre-kindergarten at no cost to residents; middle school renovations to include three new science laboratories and six new classrooms; complete renovation of our athletic fields at the high school including lights, eight-lane track, and all purpose turf field; new classrooms and desperately needed changes to our flagship high school building; the development of Pennsauken's high tech (magnet) high school; a state of the art park at Longfellow; and security vestibules in every school within our district. These are just some of the changes you will see with

this referendum.

On Monday, Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m., we will be meeting at Longfellow Elementary School to discuss these proposed initiatives, getting the public's opinion about the Longfellow Park in particular and going over other specifics of the referendum. I hope to see you there!

Spend Time With The Super

Please join me for "Coffee and Questions with the Superintendent," taking place this month on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. before the board meeting at the main office area of Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd. This is a time where concerned parents or Pennsauken residents can come and ask questions regarding any topic within the school district.

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Teachers Recognize Students For Positive Core Values

Each month, teachers throughout the Pennsauken School District will select a student to be honored at the monthly Board of Education meetings. These students recognized through the "Teachers' Choice Awards" show one or more of the following "Medal of Honor" core values: commitment, courage, integrity, patriotism, citizenship, or sacrifice. The teacher or educator who awards each student will write a short paragraph explaining why they were chosen and how they exhibited these core values. Students are presented with a superhero pen and their parent/guardian will be presented with a bouquet of flowers. All funding for this program is provided through PRIDE in Public Education, and the Pennsauken

Education Association.

The students recognized in November were: Ceasar Nguyen, Burling; Alexander Bonilla, Carson; Leah Casteneda, Delair; Colin Rowan, Fine; Brandon and Jayden Garcia Gonzalez, Franklin; Anh Vo, Longfellow; Alina Thai, Roosevelt; Madia Garcia Gonzalez, Intermediate; Jasmine Camacho, Phifer; and Jesus Salazar, PHS.

The students recognized in December were: Gerardo Flores Alonso, Burling; Julianna Bush, Carson; Lauren Nguyen, Delair; Jaelyn Blacknal, Fine; Emely Botello Morales, Franklin; Truly Pasamihalis, Longfellow; Jaylee Reyes, Roosevelt; Cassidy Mengle, Intermediate; Isamarie Garay, Phifer; and Kendal Davidson Mosely, PHS.



At the Board of Education meetings in November and December, students throughout the Pennsauken School District were honored by teachers and educators for exhibiting positive behavior based on core values such as commitment, courage, integrity and more.



Phifer Shows Off Experiments During Annual Science Fair



Students at Phifer Middle School tackled a variety of concepts and experiments during the annual science fair.

Spreading Holiday Cheer Through STEM

The students and teachers of A.E. Burling Elementary school wanted an innovative way to spread holiday cheer, so they decided to work together to build STEM gingerbread houses. STEM education shows students how the scientific method can be used to solve everyday problems through science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The students, with teacher support, asked questions, developed solutions, and tested different ways on how to design the best gingerbread house. They used different textiles and materials to simulate Christmas lights, shingles, icing, and other common design ideas you would find on a gingerbread house.

Mrs. Bridget Keim's fourth grade class broke up into teams to design on graph paper, construct, and add details to their



Students at Burling Elementary used principles of science, engineering, technology, and mathematics – or STEM – to build gingerbread houses for the holidays.

"Gingerbread Mansion." They also developed ways to incorporate patterns and even created their own textiles for their gingerbread house! The students were very engaged and extremely proud of their hard work.



Students in the gifted and talented program at Carson School applied their multiplication, fraction, and measuring skills while baking pumpkin rolls. The goodies were then donated to the PTA for the bake sale, which was held during our parent conference. What a tasty way to learn!

Mrs. Jillian Coyne's second grade class' gingerbread house was interactive and multisensory. The students added details inside the house as well as on the outside; and it even smelled like gingerbread!

Mrs. Jessica Rachfalski and Ms. Janet Taylor's kindergarten/first grade classes created miniature models of Burling Elementary school! They discussed with their kindergarteners the different shapes and architecture that are used to create a model.

Mrs. Dorothy Wilkerson, Mrs. Trish DeMarco, and Mrs. Kaitlin Cader's classes also created innovative and festive houses. Not only did this project engage the students in an engineering activity, but it "built" a sense of community and working together, which is a great way to celebrate the holidays!

Family Film Night Fundraiser At Fine

In November, Fine School hosted a Family Film Night. Students watched the movie, "Monsters vs. Aliens" with friends, family, and Fine School staff. Many of the movie goers were dressed in pajamas and enjoyed snacks in the gym. Fine School raised \$300, which was donated to ProVision School in Houston, Texas, a school affected by Hurricane Harvey.



Pennsauken Firefighters Visit Baldwin School



Pennsauken's Fire Department visited Baldwin School during Fire Prevention Month. Firefighters taught students how to "stop, drop, and roll" if their clothes should catch on fire. Everyone at Baldwin would like to thank the Pennsauken Fire Department for visiting!

Board of Education Meeting

The Pennsauken Township Board of Education will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7:00 p.m. at Pennsauken High School, Room #327, 800 Hylton Rd., Pennsauken, N.J. 08110. The public is invited to attend.

Prior to the meeting at the Administrative Office, Dr. Tarchichi will hold the monthly "Coffee and Conversation with the Superintendent" from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the main office area of the high school. During this time, parents or residents can come and ask questions regarding any topic within the school district.



By the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; Allyson Meloni-Scavuzzo, Vice President; Cheryl Duffy; Michael Hurley; Diane Johnson; Leona Moss; Jennifer Slattery; Orlando Viera; and JoAnn Young

As 2018 begins, Pennsauken School students and staff gear up for a new year after enjoying a long holiday break. The hallways will once again be filled with the hustle and bustle that accompanies each school day. While the District prepares for the beginning of the second half of the year, the Pennsauken Board of Education will undergo some significant changes.

Each year in January, immediately following the New Year, the Pennsauken Board of Education holds its annual re-organization meeting. This meeting serves two main purposes: it provides an opportunity for newly elected Board members to be sworn in and for the newly seated Board to elect its president and vice president.

The school board elections occurred in November, along with the general election in the state of New Jersey. This year, five Pennsauken Township residents ran for three open positions on the board. The successful candidates were

Welcoming A New Year And A New School Board

Michael Bortnowski, Maria James, and Orlando Viera. Mike, Maria and Orlando will be sworn in at the re-organization meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 7:00 p.m., at Pennsauken High School. We wanted to take the opportunity in this article to introduce you to the new members of the Board.

Michael Bortnowski is a newer resident of Pennsauken, moving here two years ago. Recently married to his wife, Leyla, the couple is expecting their first child in July. Mike is a graduate of Rowan University with a degree in Health Promotion and Wellness Management. He is currently attending Villanova University and studying for his Masters in Public Administration. He is a certified firefighter and EMT and is working in the role of community outreach coordinator and liaison for Cooper University Healthcare. Mike has volunteered at various events in the community, including the Harvest Festival and Tippin's Pond clean up. He is thrilled to be able to have the opportunity to better serve the Pennsauken community.

Maria James has been a proud Pennsauken resident for the past 15 years. Maria is married with two children, both of whom are currently students in the Pennsauken School District. She is a licensed cosmetologist and has served on the cosmetology advisory committee at Pennsauken High School.

She has been Longfellow Elementary School's PTA president since 2014. Maria also has served the community in various ways, such as being a PYAA assistant soccer coach and volunteering at the Harvest Festival and Tippin's Pond clean up.

Orlando Viera is a currently seated Board of Education member who won re-election in November. He has lived in Pennsauken for the past 22 years and is a 2007 graduate of Pennsauken High School. He is married with two children, one of whom is a new student in Pennsauken's Pre-K program. Orlando is employed by the Camden County Department of Health and Senior Services. He has been involved in the community in a variety of ways, including serving as a Youth in Action local, national and international volunteer for the past two years and has been a PYAA baseball and basketball coach for the past 10.

As the new members are welcomed on the Pennsauken Board of Education, two current members of the Board will be concluding their terms. Dr. Allyson Meloni-Scavuzzo, a seven-year veteran of the Board and the current Board vice president, will be completing her third term as a Board of Education member. Ms. Leona Moss, who has been seated on the Board for the past three and a half years, will also be finishing her term. We thank these Board members for their time and dedication to the children

and residents of the Pennsauken community.

The Pennsauken Board of Education welcomes its new members and is excited to move forward in the New Year with many school district initiatives. As always, we greatly appreciate the support of our residents and look forward to

making Pennsauken Schools even more successful!

Board Bit Of The Month

State law requires that the Board of Education hold its annual re-organization meeting within the first seven days of the New Year.



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Open House, Referendum Presentation Held At Pennsauken High School On January 28

On Sunday, Jan. 28, members of the Pennsauken community have an opportunity to not only tour Pennsauken High School, but also learn about the upcoming bond referendum vote slated for March 13.

From 2:00 to 4:30 p.m., attendees will have a chance to tour the facility, meet with PHS staff, and learn about the school's academic, athletic, and vocational opportunities. Beginning at 4:00 p.m., members of the Board of Education and District staff will hold a presentation for Township residents to consider a bond referendum that will make significant improvements to every public school throughout the Township.

Pennsauken High School is located at 800 Hylton Rd., Pennsauken, N.J. For more information, visit the District's website at Pennsauken.net.



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Family Fun At Longfellow School

Longfellow School hosted a Parent Involvement Night (PIN) in the fall. This evening provided families with fun and engaging strategies for supporting reading, math, and technology at home. Each family was welcomed by Principal Gery and the school's secretary, Mrs. McGowan; and the evening was hosted by Mrs. Goldstein, Ms. Grant, Mr. Helfman, Ms. Hook, Mrs. Jakubowski, and Mrs. Laverty.

Families were treated to a pizza dinner with cookies for dessert and had a chance to win fantastic collections of treats, including book sets and school supplies.

Mr. Helfman and Mrs. Laverty shared fantastic games and strategies to support the students in their math development. Ms. Grant and Ms. Hook shared lots of information about our technology tools for families and helped each family access their own child's accounts. Mrs. Goldstein and Mrs. Jakubowski shared information about the importance of literacy and discussed ways to make family



During Longfellow's Parent Involvement Night, Mrs. Jakubowski and Mrs. Goldstein spread some reading magic with great books.

reading and literacy fun by playing games. Each family left with a collection of materials that will help them keep the learning going at home, prizes from our raffles, and big smiles for a night of fun.

The Longfellow PIN team would like to thank all of the families who came out for this entertaining and informative event and to thank the entire Longfellow School Family for all of its support.

Baldwin Students Visit The Library



Miss Skinner and Mrs. Romvary's students from Baldwin Elementary School took a trip to the Pennsauken Free Public Library! They looked at all of the books, listened to a few stories and colored pictures. They enjoyed visiting the Library and meeting the wonderful people who work there, like Miss Susan, seen here.

"Run, Run As Fast As You Can..." Carson Students Catch On To Learning With Gingerbread Project

By Colleen Messina, Second Grade Teacher, Carson School

Do you enjoy gingerbread men as much as we do at Carson School? It's time for our annual lessons and fun with the "Gingerbread Man" story.

My class, as well as the students in Mrs. Ruane, Ms. Gilbert, and Mrs. Kosmaczewski's classes, had fun integrating the gingerbread theme into language arts and math, while promoting artistic expression and family collaboration.

The children in these classes have read the Gingerbread Man story and have written descriptions of the individual characters, using text evidence to support their ideas. Sharing what they have learned about the story with family members, students participated in a creative family art project, decorating individual gingerbread boys and girls. They particularly enjoyed sharing their completed projects in school and using them to create math problems and data charts.

Students displayed their artistic gingerbread boys and girls, and the fourth



As part of their annual lesson based on the "Gingerbread Man" story, students at Carson Elementary created gingerbread boy and girl art projects with their families.

graders, along with staff members, voted on their favorite gingerbread creations based on originality and creativity.

We are very proud of our staff, students, and parents. Great job, everyone!

Quezada First Recipient Of Carson's "Teacher Choice Award"

Zoe Quezada was recognized with Carson Elementary's first 2017-18 "Teacher Choice Award" of the school year by teacher Ms. Ransone.

Ransone, who was served the Pennsauken School District for 27 years, selected Zoe based on her exemplary display of respect and citizenship that was recognized from day one of the school year; this was just one of many factors that determined Zoe as Carson School's Teacher Choice Award recipient.

Congratulations!



Zoe Quezada, seen here with her teacher, Ms. Ransone, was recognized with Carson Elementary's first "Teacher Choice Award" for the 2017-2018 school year.

Intermediate School Holds Winter Concert



The Intermediate School's band and string orchestra, under the direction of Miss Michelle Wall, performed for family, friends, and school staff during their annual winter concert.

Phifer Moves Forward With Model UN Club

Phifer Middle school is set to begin their journey in the world of cultural geography and diplomacy. Ten students and three teacher advisors have formed Phifer's very first Model UN club!

The United Nations is a multi-national organization that dedicates itself to resolving conflict, promoting human rights, and stimulating social and economic development across the globe. It consists of 193 separate countries working cooperatively to address a variety of world issues.

The students and staff at Phifer are simulating the procedures of the UN, which will culminate in a multi-school conference at Temple University in May. The topics that will be discussed at this year's conference will be ending food insecurity and protecting women and girls' access to education. Students will be assigned a country to represent at the conference.

Victoria Van, founding member, is excited to get to work. "I'm looking forward

to the debates that come with it, and discussing issues affecting our world."

Other members include Edden Abanyie, Nadir Paige, Zarria Hughes, Duy Nguyen, Emma Ramirez, Donyelle Faulk, Cierra Nelson-White, Kabera Miller, and Kyla Marshall.

Students have already received their nation assignments. They have also been diligently researching the organization and the procedures of the UN. This knowledge will greatly help them when it comes time to meet and debate with other schools.

Teacher advisors feel that the future of Model UN is bright at Phifer. Michael Rodgers, one of the advisors, sums up the feeling accurately: "I am looking forward to showcasing what Pennsauken students have to offer. There is so much benefit to learning and discussing the prevailing issues of our time."

PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact:

Nicole Roberts, Editor nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net

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An Ounce Of Prevention Goes A Long Way

By Tracey Howarth,
Pennsauken Township

In the last six months, we have been able to identify more than 220 additional property maintenance companies and written over 2,500 separate violations for vacant properties. There has been a lot of work done to notify these companies and communicate to them what they need to do to get their properties up to the township code. The property preservation companies have stepped up in many cases and taken responsibility for the repairs to these homes and properties. However, there are still properties that need work done to ensure that no further deterioration occurs during the toughest months of the year.

In an effort to be proactive about getting these vacant properties taken care of – especially before we start seeing some of the more severe weather winter has to offer – we are asking for the help of our residents to share some informa-

tion. Property maintenance is critical to the preservation of a home during this time of year. A vacant home can experience a great deal of damage and deterioration in the winter months, for the simple reason that there is no one there to take care of the essentials. So we are asking for the assistance of our residents to help us get ahead of this problem by sharing a little information.

It's easy to help! If you live next to or have a vacant property in your neighborhood and see things like dead trees; open or broken windows and doors; any place on the property that allows access to animals or people; damaged roofs or soffits that will allow water into the home; and any safety issues at all, please visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/reporting-abandonedvacant-property-issues to tell us about the property.

The maintenance issues listed can all be seen from the sidewalk or street; there is no need for anyone to go onto or enter

any vacant property. Our objective is to get the property maintenance company's notified now before any further damage can occur.

Your input and information can really help us to get ahead of this issue and keep these properties from deteriorating any further. It will also give us the opportunity to help prevent damage to any neighboring properties through these tough months. The maintenance companies have been very receptive to helping us secure these properties and resolving any issue that may do damage to a neighboring property. What we need are a few more eyes to help us quickly assemble a list of properties and get that information to the people responsible for getting the work done.

It's important to note that we will only be able to address the property issues sent through the link mentioned in this article. You can also find this link by going onto the Pennsauken website

under the Abandoned and Vacant Property icon. Help us get ahead of these potential problems now by sharing the address and the issues of concern.

Thank you again for your participation and partnership in making our town a safer and better place to live! It's be-

cause of your partnership that we are able to move the needle quicker on issues like this. I look forward to hearing from you and getting these issues resolved as quickly as possible.

Have a safe and prosperous start to 2018!

Pennsauken's Bayada One Of Glassdoor's Best Places To Work

Glassdoor, one of the fastest growing jobs and recruiting sites that has a database of millions of company reviews, CEO approval ratings, salary reports, and more, has selected Bayada Home Health Care as one of their "Best Places to Work" in 2018.

One of the over thousand reviews of

Bayada on Glassdoor's website states that an RN case manager with the home health care agency feels "like I make a difference everyday." The review also mentioned that Bayada offers autonomy, which helps in developing individualized care plans; is an ethical company;

and focuses on quality of care.

Bayada Home Health Care moved to Pennsauken in 2017, consolidating office functions, such as IT, communications, and accounting. The location also houses the organization's international training center.

The Enterprise Way Need a rental?

For reservations,
please call 1 (800) rent-a-car



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Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

*PSA Wishes All
A Happy &
Prosperous New Year!*

IMPROPER CONNECTIONS CAUSE PROPERTY DAMAGE

The connection of sump pumps and down spouts to the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. During periods of heavy rain, these connections often overwhelm the main lines. This could result in a sewage back up into your own home or the home of your neighbor. If you need additional information about these types of connections, or suspect you or a neighbor, may have an improper connection and want information about having it removed, please call our office at (856) 663-5542.



REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday to Thursday – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

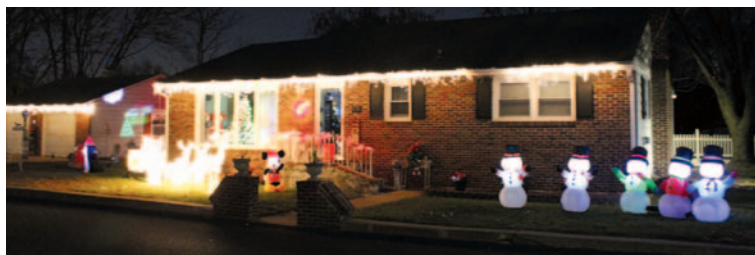
PLEASE USE MAIL SLOT LOCATED IN OUR PUBLIC ENTRANCE DOOR
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PROVIDER OF THE SERVICE CHARGES EACH
CUSTOMER PER \$175 TRANSACTION.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.

Winners Of Pennsauken's First Annual Holiday Light Contest

Congratulations to the winners of Pennsauken Township's first annual Holiday Light Contest!



Third place (tied): Eleanor Wright, 1722 Derrouse Ave.



Third place (tied): Joe and Melissa McCollum, 6736 Marion Ave.



Second place (tied): Denise Gasparinatos, 4462 Burwood Ave.



Second place (tied): John Natale, 8560 Orchard Ave.



First place: Brian and Jennifer Hak, 8220 Bryn Mawr Ave.

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club Holds Open Houses

Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club is having several open houses this month. Located in the basement of Grace Episcopal Church, 7 East Maple Ave., Merchantville, the display features a two-rail, O gauge model railroad, in-

cluding 4,000 linear feet of track and a reproduction of Philadelphia's 30th Street Station.

The area's largest operating O gauge model railroad display will be open to the public on the following dates:

Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 6 and 7, noon to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 13 and 14, noon to 3:00 p.m.

All open houses are free to attend. Free parking is also available.



WINTER OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 28th 2018
from 10:30 am until 12:30 pm

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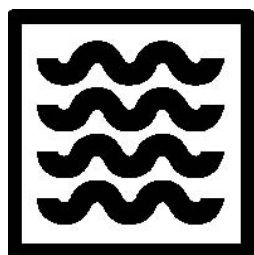
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MPWC WATERLINES

MPWC Prepares For Water Quality Accountability Act Compliance

In 2018, the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission will be instituting compliancy with the Water Quality Accountability Act, which was passed in 2017. Compliancy mandates include an increase to scheduled water main replace-

ments; increased hydrant inspection and maintenance protocols; accelerated valve testing and inspection; and increased cyber security capabilities. While the MPWC has been continually budgeting for infrastructure maintenance and up-

grades each year, to meet the standards imposed, we will be increasing water rates by two percent, which should have a nominal impact. For a customer who owns a single-family home, the average water bill is expected to increase by approximately

\$1.20 per quarter.

The new rates are effective January 1, 2018 and the adjusted rates can be viewed on our website, MPWC.com. Please feel free to contact our customer support center with any questions at (856) 663-0043.

COLD WEATHER TIPS

Keep your meter warm this winter! Water meters are prone to freezing, just like the pipes in your home.

Keep the area around your meter warm to prevent cracks and leaks. Meters that are damaged due to freezing temperatures will be replaced at the

owner's expense. Follow these tips to help prevent frozen meters and pipes this season:

- Keep the garage door closed (especially if the garage is attached to the house).
- During a deep freeze, keep the ther-

mostat set to the same temperature day and night. Lowering the thermostat could cause pipes to freeze.

- If you're going out of town, drain the water system completely. Do this by shutting off the main valve and letting all the faucets in the home run until the system is empty (no more running water comes out of the tap).
- Check for and fill in holes or cracks in exterior walls and foundations to prevent cold air from coming into the walls.
- And remember to insulate and protect your water meter!

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS: Don't Forget to "Like" Us on Facebook!



Looking for information about the water you drink - Where does it come from? How does it get to my home? Do you want to learn more about the MPWC's ongoing infrastructure projects? Have a question about your meter? Visit us on the web at www.mpw.com and from there, click the like us on Facebook button.

Adopt-A-Hydrant



If you've signed up to participate in our Adopt-A-Hydrant project, remember to send us your pictures! If you're clearing your adopted hydrant of snow or other debris, snap a photo so that we can share it on our Facebook page!

If you're interested in learning about the MPWC's Adopt-A-Hydrant program, please visit the MPWC website at www.mpw.com or e-mail hydrants@mpwc.com.

Individuals can participate by adopting a hydrant nearest their homes. This is also a great opportunity for scouts, civic groups or individuals looking to earn community service hours.

Help us keep hydrants clear of snow



**to save time and lives
during a fire emergency**

Keep Your Meter Warm This Winter



Meters are prone to freezing temperatures, just like the pipes in a home. Keep the area around your meter protected to avoid cracks and leaks. If a meter breaks in the home, it is the customer's responsibility for the replacement.

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

These meetings are open to the public and are held at 6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken.

Questions about your service?

Call 663-0043 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., emergencies - call 663-0045 anytime.

MERCHANTVILLE - PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 www.mpw.com

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President

Mr. Patrick Brennan, Vice President • Mr. G. Burton German, Jr., Treasurer
Mr. George Piperno, Secretary • Mr. Ronald Johnson, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Pennsauken School District Holds First Public Meeting On March 13 Bond Referendum

continued from page 1

playground in the school's old footprint; the addition of three new science labs and six additional classrooms at Phifer Middle School; the transformation of Roosevelt Elementary into a high-tech magnet high school, with the addition of a brand new gymnasium; and extensive renovations at Pennsauken High School, with improvement being made to the auditorium, library, locker rooms, and gymnasium; and construction of a plumbing lab. The proposal also adds significant improvements to the high school that will benefit the student-athlete. Plans call for the building of a brand new, state-of-the-art field house, new tennis courts, an all purpose turf field, lights and an eight-lane track.

"We have Pennsauken kids at Woodrow Wilson, Camden High, Paul VI, Camden Catholic, Cherry Hill West, and Bishop Eustace. We have kids all over that should be in our building, and some of them are our better kids," explains Coach Clinton Tabb, Pennsauken High School. "If we can get those kids to stay, all the teams, not just football, field hockey, soccer, track, will benefit all across the board."

Pennsauken residents will also benefit from the improved facilities. The park at the Longfellow site would be accessible to the local neighborhood and include a playground, walking path, gazebo, and pickleball courts. The high school track

will be open to the community for walking; and the new field house and Roosevelt's gym will be available for local use. In addition, the proposed turf, multi-purpose field at the high school would also be available for youth football, soccer, and other tournaments, as well as band competitions under the lights.

The timing of this referendum couldn't be more beneficial, according to District officials. With the retirement of the bond debt from the building of Fine, Delair, and Intermediate schools, the proposed bond referendum will actually reduce school taxes. For example, a resident with an assessed home of approximately \$140,000 will see a reduction of \$11.06; these savings take into account both the comprehensive improvements and the District's regular operating budget.

Dr. Tarchichi explained how state aid plays a role in these savings.

"From what you can see from the numbers is that there is a state share and a local share. Because this is a public school program, the state picks up a share of the program. The local share is what we put in with our taxes," explains Tarchichi.

"It's important to note that 63.25 percent of the costs of many of these projects in the referendum are eligible for that state share," adds Robert N. Garrison, Jr. of Garrison Architects, a company that has done work for a variety of successful education-based bond refer-

endums, including schools in Manasquan, Edgewater Park, Lower Cape May Regional, and Paulsboro. "It's almost like the residents and the Board of Education go back up to Trenton and take some of your hard earned tax dollars and bring them back to your community. And that's what so special about bond referendums."

About half of those in attendance filled out surveys at the end of the event, which provided important feedback about the presentation. After tallying the responses, a total of 78 percent stated they were in favor of the bond referendum. Of those surveyed who had children in the school district, not one person said they were against the bond referendum. A large majority of surveyed participants favored all of the improvements.

Announcing The Rick Taylor Field House

In addition to learning in detail about the proposed plans and the opportunity to ask questions about the initiative, the Pennsauken School District took the opportunity to recognize Rick Taylor, a member of Pennsauken Township Committee and a longtime educator who has made a significant impact for generations of Pennsauken students. Mr. Taylor was on hand with family and friends as the District announced a very

special surprise.

"The Board has been talking for a long time to figure out how to best recognize the service of Mr. Taylor and all the sacrifices he has made. We're going to name the field house the 'Rick Taylor Field House,'" says Billy Snyder, a teacher at Pennsauken High School. "So a one-of-a-kind field house will be named after a one-of-a-kind man who has served this community."

Taylor was also surprised by a very special congratulatory video from his son, Scott, who lives in California.

"You've been serving our town for over 50 years. You didn't do it for the accolades; you did it because you genuinely

love the people of Pennsauken," explains Scott. "We celebrate your sacrifice and dedication to Pennsauken and I love you and I'm so proud of you."

"Thank you very much. I'm humbled," says Rick Taylor. "I'm just counting my blessings. To have been able to work in the School District for 42 years and seeing some of the products that have come out, our students; that's what a teacher's bonus is. And having been able to serve you in an elected capacity for 22 years, I'm proud of that."

"I'm certainly excited to see [the referendum]," added Taylor. "Dr. T is taking us in a new direction. I hope everyone in

continued on page 27

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HEALTHYLIFESTYLES Truly Making A Healthier You In 2018

When the clock strikes midnight and the ball drops at Times Square, it's the start of a brand new year, as well as a long list of resolutions. According to data pulled from Google by iQuanti, the most popular New Year's resolution entering into last year was getting healthy, with over 62 million searches. Gym memberships jump as much as 40 percent, based on data from Gold's Gym; and people toss the Christmas cookies and go for the salad bowl.

Or at least they try. Those new gym goers usually trail off by springtime. And more than half of dieters – nearly 65 percent – return to their pre-dieting weight

within three years, according to Gary Foster, Ph.D., clinical director of the Weight and Eating Disorders Program. Another sobering statistic: data from Stanford University states that only 5 percent of people who crash diet will keep the weight off.

So what's wrong here? While getting healthy is a wonderful resolution, the mistake is thinking that a spur-of-the-moment decision is going to equate to a total lifestyle change. The following are some tips to help that commitment to a healthier you become a resolution you can keep:

- Drink water – drinking water before



you eat and using water to replace calorie-filled drinks like juice or soda is a simple and effective way to get healthier and drop those pounds

- Don't leave meals to chance – planning all of your meals out on a daily basis will help you stick to healthier food offerings
- Keep the right foods at home – if you're changing your diet, make sure

you stock only healthy options at home

- Stay busy – being idle or bored can lead to poor food choice and unhealthy snacking
- A little exercise goes a long way – even walking for 20 minutes a few days a week can help keep your metabolism burning fat
- Persistence not perfection – don't expect to lose weight overnight and don't give up if you fall off the healthy lifestyle wagon

As with any health-related decision, be sure to check with your primary care physician before starting any diet change or exercise regimen. And make 2018 the first year of a healthier you!

Woman's Club Kicks Off New Year With Meetings This Month

The Evening Membership of the Woman's Club of Merchantville will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 9, at the Merchantville Community Center, 212 Somerset Ave., Merchantville, at 7:00 p.m. The Woman's Club of Merchantville will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at the Merchantville Community Center at noon. There will be a tea luncheon, followed by a meeting. The speaker that day will be Arlene Sullivan, who will talk about her book, "Bandstand Diaries," which highlights personal accounts of the Philadelphia high school regulars on "American Bandstand" from the 50's and 60's.

The Merchantville Woman's Club has been one of the leading service organizations in the region. Women from our community are members committed to making a difference. Among other things, the Club raises money for local and state charities and scholarships. Activities include monthly card and game parties; and members volunteer at the Food Bank of South Jersey and the Cathedral Kitchen.

To attend a meeting, or for more information, contact Jan at (609) 410-4650 or janwh@aol.com.

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GOING GREEN Up-Cycling With Thrift Store Finds And More

By Kathleen Harvey, AAP Columnist

We live in a consumer-based world, where everything is made to be throw-away these days. Even Christmas has become commercial, where we grow up wondering what new toys Santa left for us under the tree. Now that the holidays are over, and the cold light of credit card bills have arrived, perhaps this is the time to think about things that were made long ago, with love, pride of workmanship, and skill.

Trends of the Millennials are moving away from formal living rooms and traditional dining room furniture with china closets. What will happen to all the heavy, comfortable furniture of lives lived long ago? What will happen to china and crystal that can't go in the dishwasher, of silver that must be polished each time it is used? In times of reflection, it makes me a little sad to see things of the past thrown away, especially when they often still have much life left in them.

I enjoy perusing thrift stores, re-stores, and stores selling vintage items. Craig's

List and Facebook have become treasure troves as well. It helps to level set expectations before walking in to one of these establishments, or shopping on your phone. To me, it's like a treasure hunt. Most of the items in the store will not be my taste, of use to me, or at a price I am willing to pay. However, there is the thrill of the hunt. Walk into a thrift store, eyes and mind open to the possibilities. My guy has a ceiling light fixture with a shade that has been cracked for many years... I have NO idea how that happened... We walked into a thrift store one day, pawed through the glassware, and what did we find sitting on a shelf? The exact replica of the broken vintage shade! We could have hunted for years through stores and the internet looking for something similar, but here was the exact same shade that was listing dangerously in his house. It was meant to be. Other times, I have found useful items like glassware, baking dishes, furniture, tools, and light fixtures. By themselves, they look dirty, lost and lonely sitting in a heap on thrift store shelves, waiting for

someone to come along and breathe new life into them. If you use your imagination, it's often possible to envision what it will look like cleaned, polished, renewed, and repurposed in your home. Though I am not a fan of painting furniture, at least these things are being up-cycled and reused instead of throwing them away.

Lest you think I am becoming a hoarder, I periodically go through my

things with a discerning eye, determine what is still being used, and what is merely taking up space and collecting dust. It's time to let someone else enjoy those things. There may be a sentimental attachment to decorations of Christmases past, but I must admit that I don't have the energy I used to, to drag all of those things out of the attic every year, put them up, and take them back down in January to be packed away for an-

other year. So, some of those things went on the chopping block for other families to enjoy.

As holiday decorations and last year's presents are taken down and packed away, consider selling or donating them to charity organizations instead of throwing them away. You never know when someone else may be looking for your treasures with a glint in their eye.

Happy New and Renewable Year!

It's Time To Play "Pennsaukenopoly!"

In conjunction with the town's 125th anniversary last year, Pennsauken has created "Pennsaukenopoly," a special keepsake board game.

"Visit" some of the great places and businesses in Pennsauken and enjoy a fun, competitive game for the whole

family.

Games are just \$30 and all proceeds from the sale of "Pennsaukenopoly" will go to support local charitable initiatives.

For more information, or to purchase a game, call (856) 665-1000 x127 or e-mail aap@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

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**We'd Like To
Welcome
Donna Feldman
To McFarlan's!**

We're excited to announce that Donna Feldman, with over 20 years experience baking at the Swiss Haus Bakery in Philadelphia has brought her talents to us at McFarlan's Market as



our in house Baker. Donna will be supplying her delicious, fresh baked goods at our store in Merchantville as well as at our second location opening in Collingswood in early 2018!



Stop in and say "Hello" and try a custard filled brioche, fruit and cheese filled strudel, muffins, cookies, pies and so much more freshly baked by Donna!



Welcome To McFarlan's Market Donna!

Visit us at: www.mcfarlansmarket.com



YouTube





FOODADVENTURES Casani Candy Company Has A Sweet Thing Going In Pennsauken

By Rachael Shugars,
AAP Columnist

This month's featured food destination was one of Hershey

Food Company's very first customers. Family owned and operated, Casani Candy Company has distributed candy, near and far, for over 150 years.

I got to sit down with Casani's general manager, Joseph Lees, to get to know this local treasure right here in Pennsauken. Joseph is the son of the

company's owner, John Lees, who is a legend in the candy business in his own right and has the awards to prove it. There's even a plaque for him in Hershey Park! Joseph explained that he knew all along that he was meant to be in the candy business and has worked for Casani since he was in grade school. He also expressed that working with his father offers him the best of both worlds in getting to do something that he loves and getting to do that with his dad.

Originally based in Philadelphia in 1903 and moved to Pennsauken in 2010, Casani is now nestled away in the business park by Cooper River, a little more than a stone's throw from the water's edge. The company relocated across the bridge to provide better delivery services to New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania. According to Joseph, their location in Pennsauken is in perfect proximity to the city, while still allowing them easy access to the highways and bridges they use for their deliveries every day.

Casani Candy Company deals in primarily bulk candy, but will happily cater to anyone walking in who has a hankering for some licorice laces or chocolate. About 75 percent of what they sell is bulk candy, chocolate, and nuts. The original company actually produced mints and cough drops, but has since stopped that to focus on getting other candy and sweet product out to the masses.

I wanted to know what could be such a huge factor in keeping this company rolling along for so many years. Joseph said, without skipping a beat, "Great customer service. We try and do the best we can to keep everyone happy." They even go as far as calling each and every customer to ensure that they are satisfied with their products and the services pro-

vided. You definitely can't beat a company that treats its customers like family. Even upon arriving for my interview, I was warmly greeted by Ginger, the cutest, friendliest little dog around. As I've said in articles before, family owned companies and restaurants are the life blood of the community. The experiences you have in places like this are special.

Casani sells in bulk, which is perfect for anyone looking to add some treats to a wedding or birthday party spread. Buying in bulk is almost always the cheaper option too! They also have candies and products perfect for the holidays. Christmas and Easter are two big ones for them. I say, why not make every holiday a candy holiday? The best way to see what they offer is to go and visit. There are shelves of candy to choose from. You can also request a catalog via e-mail to keep on hand for the future at casani145@aol.com or by calling (856) 488-0045. They are also working on making ordering online available in the future, which is great, but I definitely recommend going in person if you can. Joseph also wants to work on connecting with more retailers and even liquor stores to make their candies and other treats available everywhere.

This adventure, like the others I've been on, was wonderful. I learned that I have a candy paradise minutes away from me and they're kind of a big deal. Let's make this New Year a sweet one and start it off with a visit to Casani Candy Company! Enjoy your food adventures!

Casani Candy Company is located at 7905 Browning Rd., Suite 208, in Pennsauken. For more information, visit www.casanicandyco.com.

Find more local food content from Rachael by liking "All Around Pennsauken Food Adventures" on Facebook.

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Casani Candy Company, which moved to Pennsauken in 2010, has been distributing candy locally for over 150 years. Pictured here are Tom Hayes, Amanda Lees, Ginger the dog, Donna Citino, John Lees, Joe Lees Jr., Joe Lees Sr., and Francine Lees.

inTown

Holiday Highlights



Children were thrilled to tell Saint Nick what they wanted for Christmas during the annual Breakfast with Santa, co-sponsored by Pennsauken Township and the Pennsauken Education Association.



After a highly successful reboot last year, Pennsauken Township's tree lighting ceremony and food truck event returned with festive fanfare.



Snowy weather didn't stop Pennsauken's first-ever Parade of Lights, held on Dec. 15 along Browning Rd.



An annual tradition, the Pennsauken Fire Department escorted Santa Claus throughout various parts of town.

School District Holds First Public Meeting on Bond Referendum

continued from page 23
this room is excited about it and passes the word.”

Next Opportunities To Learn About The Referendum

On Monday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m., the Pennsauken School District will host a

meeting at Longfellow Elementary School, 1400 Forrest Ave., Pennsauken, to discuss the proposed initiative and Longfellow Park. On Sunday, Jan. 28, members of the Pennsauken community have an additional opportunity to not only tour Pennsauken High School, located at 800 Hylton Rd., but also learn about the

upcoming bond referendum vote slated for March 13. The high school's open house begins at 2:00 p.m.; and the referendum presentation starts at 4:00 p.m.

For more information or questions, visit GrowingPennsaukenSchools.com or e-mail pennsauken.referendum@gmail.com.

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PUBLICWORKS Welcoming A New Year, Hoping For A Mild Winter

By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,
Department of Public Works

I hope that you and your loved ones found the holiday season to be enjoyable! We at the Department of Public Works look forward to serving you again this year. As we hope for a mild winter, here are a few items we'd like to share with Pennsauken residents.

Live Christmas Tree Disposal

My December article spoke about our ability to monitor the types of calls regarding questions or concerns that we receive via access to this data. Pulling the

January 2017 call log – and one instance from last February – I noticed we received a handful of calls where residents asked how to dispose of live Christmas trees. I'd imagine the one that held onto their tree until February is more committed to the holiday than I am!

You can place your live Christmas tree at your curb on Tuesday afternoons for collection during the normal Wednesday yard debris pickup. It does not have to be in a bag, nor cut up, although the bag may make it cleaner to remove from your home. Also, please make sure that all ornaments and lights are removed from the

tree before disposing of it.

Snow Removal

Typically, plowing operations won't begin until three to four inches of snow accumulate. Public Works has the two-story rock salt storage building filled to the brim and is ready for whatever conditions winter throws our way. It is our mission to plow from curb to curb to provide the widest area for emergency vehicles to maneuver. We encourage residents to not dig out their driveway aprons until we've been down your street. This is an unfortunate byproduct of plowing and we request your patience, as our crews typically endure countless overnight hours to clear our town.

Reporting Potholes

A winter article wouldn't be complete without the mentioning of potholes. The Department of Public Works has a des-

ignated crew that responds to all reports of potholes located on Pennsauken roads. Last year, I updated the Public Works section on the Township's website to include an article with pictures of what causes potholes. Remember, not all roads within Pennsauken's borders are owned and maintained by Public Works. Potholes tend to pop up when the weather begins to get warm and then cold again. That being said, if you come across one over the deep freeze months, we can temporarily fill them until conditions are improved enough for a proper cut out and patch to be made.

Pennsauken has a weaving of state roads, such as Routes 130, 70, 38, and 73, as well as a number of county roads that are maintained by the Camden County Department of Public Works. To report potholes found on county roads, call (856) 566-2980 or visit www.camdencounty.com/service/public-works/county-road-

report-form/. To report a pothole on a state highway, visit www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/potholeform.shtm. For all potholes found on Pennsauken roads, just give our office a call or send us an e-mail at our info listed at the end of this article.

Special Hazardous Waste Collections

At the time of printing this issue, we had not yet received the 2018 schedule of Household Hazardous Waste, Electronic Waste and Paper Shredding Events from Camden County. When these days are made public, I will include in the next article and place it on the Department of Public Works page on the Pennsauken Township website. Check in with our office with any related questions and we will point you in the right direction.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach us at (856)

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TALKIN' TRASH

NEW YEAR'S DAY, MONDAY, JAN. 1, IS A "TRASH HOLIDAY."

Monday's trash and recycling collection occurs on Tuesday, Jan. 2. Tuesday's trash and recycling pick up will be on Wednesday, Jan. 3. Wednesday's yard waste and white goods collection will be on Thursday, Jan. 4. Thursday's scheduled trash and recycling will be collected on Friday, Jan. 5. Friday's collection will occur on Saturday, Jan. 6, beginning at 6:00 a.m.

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PENNSAUKEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Happy New Year! It's 2018; with a fresh 12 months on the calendar, many decide to try to make positive changes in their lives. If you're one of those people looking to make a New Year's Resolution, the Pennsauken Free Public Li-

brary can help you keep on track.

Looking to change your career? The Library's Reference Department has an entire section for job seekers looking to make a move. Library patrons can use our computers with internet access to upload their résumés or fill out online job applications. For those looking to become

their own boss, there are plenty of books on how to start your own company.

Want to exercise more or learn how to eat better? The Library has videos on everything from aerobics to yoga; as well as a variety of books on eating healthy and staying fit.

Interested in learning a new language? Pennsauken's Library offers a variety of CDs that help patrons learn Spanish, Japanese, French, and more.

Taking up a new hobby? The Library has plenty of resources on a bunch of topics, from baking, knitting, scrapbook-

ing, and many, many more.

There are plenty of books, CDs, and DVDs at the Pennsauken Free Public Library to expand your horizons, so that 2018 isn't just a start of a new year, it's the beginning of a newer you!

January Events At The Library

Be a Super Souper – In honor of National Soup Month, the Library staff invites you to warm the heart and tummy of someone in need by bringing a can of soup to the Library when you visit us during the month of January. During regular business hours, drop off your cans of soup in the basket at the Reference Desk. They will be donated to the Food Bank of South Jersey.

A Reporter's Front Row Seat to History – Sunday, Jan. 7; 2:00 p.m. Octogenarian and veteran Philadelphia reporter and broadcaster for over 52 years, Ed Eisen will relate his encounters with a diverse array of public figures, including Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, comic Jackie Gleason, former world heavyweight champion Joe Frazier, among many others. This is FREE family event, sponsored by The Friends of the Library. Call the Li-

brary at (856) 665-5959 ext. 3 to sign up.

Munch and a Movie – Tuesday, Jan. 16; 12:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy a FREE movie and snack, courtesy of The Friends of the Library. For this month's movie selection, please call the Library at (856) 665-5959.

Library Board Meeting - Monday, Jan. 22; 6:00 p.m. The Library Board is the governing body for the Pennsauken Library. Each month the members meet to review current issues, budget, policies, and staffing. The community is encouraged to attend these meetings.

For Children Accompanied By Their Caregivers:

Storytime – Wednesdays, Jan. 10, 17, 24 & 31; 11:00 a.m. and Thursdays, Dec. 11, 18 & 25; 2:00 p.m. Miss Susan and Miss Sabrina welcome you to a fun-filled time of stories, songs, and a craft. For ages 0-5.

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FRIENDS of the LIBRARY A New Year With New Activities From The Friends Of The Library

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

Happy New Year! Whew! Isn't it nice that things have settled down somewhat now that most of the holidays have passed for another year? And to make things even better, the Friends of the Pennsauken Library have a few things in store that you'll not only enjoy, but will help you start your 2018 relaxed and hassle-free after last month's hustle and bustle.

On Sunday, Jan. 7, we are proud to present an informative and totally interesting "talk," especially in these times of 24/7 news bombardment on anything and everything that happens in our world today.

Meet Ed Eisen, a spry and engaging

octogenarian; former journalist; Camden High School attendee; reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer and the now dissolved, yet still beloved, Philadelphia Bulletin; and a genuine pro at reinventing himself over the years. Ed's talk will contrast journalism then and now and give us some inside info on all the unusual and exciting events he's covered in his 52 years in the business, including interviewing such notaries as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Senator Edward Kennedy, Jackie Gleason, former World Heavyweight Champion Joe Frazier, and many, many more. Mr. Eisen was even the one-time PR person for the Vatican, got to meet a future pope, and had lunch with Mother Teresa, an expe-

rience he says changed his life.

Ed's promo on YouTube, "Ed Eisen Presents: A Reporter's Front Row Seat to History," gives some of the highlights he'll be talking about on Jan. 7, so please check it out.

This event is free and open to all area residents. However, we do recommend you register by calling the Library at (856) 665-5959, ext. 3 to sign up.

After you do that, all you have to do is mark your calendar. You won't want to miss this!

Here's something else we don't want you to miss. Please note that we've made a permanent change to our "Munch and a Movie" get togethers. From now on, they'll take place on the

third Tuesday of the month instead of the second. That places January's session on the 16th from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. in the Community Room. Plan to be there to see what cinematic delight we have in store for you. All you have to do is pack your lunch, sit back and relax. We'll supply the snacks and beverages... and of course the movie! Share in the fun and bring a friend if you like.

Finally, for those of you taking advantage of all those great sales and January bargains online, please remember The Friends of the Pennsauken Library. If you're not already signed up, click on <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3398279> and Amazon will donate 0.05 percent of your purchases to the Friends at ab-

solutely NO cost to you. Win-win, huh?

We have all sorts of plans in the works for the upcoming months: new yoga, craft sessions, a concert, driver safety classes, and more informative speakers, just to name a few.

And, in true January tradition, we hope that one of your new resolutions for 2018 is to join the Friends and help us with events and ideas to make the Library even bigger, better, and brighter!

We'll meet in the Community Room the second Wednesday of the month, Jan. 10, at 7:00 p.m. See you then!

Dr. Jean F. Costello, Longtime Pennsauken Educator

Longtime Pennsauken educator Dr. Jean F. Costello, Ed.D. (nee DeBerardinis) passed away peacefully on Dec. 7, 2017 surrounded by her family. She was 76 years old.



Costello

Jean was a resident of Washington Township and formerly of Delran and Pennsauken. She was the beloved wife of 25 years to Carl Costello; loving mother of Robert (Eileen) Wachter Jr., Chris (Diane) Wachter and Kenneth (Liz) Wachter; cherished Nonna of Sarah, Kyle, Robbie, Kenny, Ryan, Brooke and Alexis; sister of Frank (the late Kris) DeBerardinis, the late Mario DeBerardinis, and the late Jennifer Downing. Jean was also sister-in-law to Barbara DeBerardinis, Linda DeBerardinis, Joseph (Barbara) Costello, Pam (Charlie) DeShepper, Patricia (Emil) Cramp, and the late Dolores Hansen. In addition, she is survived by many beloved nieces and nephews.

Jean was employed for over 30 years with the Pennsauken Board of Education as a teacher, principal, and assistant superintendent.

Jean enjoyed holidays and cooking for her family (New Year's Soup), spending time at the beach, and especially being with her grandchildren, attending ALL their sporting events and activities.

Jean's life celebration and viewing was held at Givnish Funeral Home in Cinnaminson. Mass of Christian Burial was held at Sacred Heart Church, Riverton. Interment was at Calvary Cemetery in Cherry Hill.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to ALS.org in Jean's memory.

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inSports PHS Hockey Team Ties West Windsor-Plainsboro



Down 2-0 after the first period, the PHS hockey team battled back to a 2-2 tie with West Windsor-Plainsboro last month. Curtis Lam scored first; and Zach Martin tied the game with 44 seconds left. Goalie Kimmar Williams had 23 saves for PHS. Be sure to come out to the Flyers Skate Zone, 6725 River Rd., Pennsauken, on Friday, Jan. 5, as the Indians take on Brick Memorial High School. The puck drops at 7:30 p.m. Photo credit: Becky Martin.

PYAA Cheerleading Takes First Place



Congratulations to the PYAA Senior Cheerleading Squad on winning first place at the GT Cheer Challenge in November!

Township Employee Dunn Retires

Karen Dunn, a Pennsauken resident and municipal employee, retired last month after 10 plus years of service to the Township. Congratulations and best wishes on a well deserved retirement! Photo credit: Adrian Casey.



Dunkin' Donuts Brewing Joy In Pennsauken

Dunkin' Donuts' "Brewing Joy" program says "thank you" to its guests and the local community the best way it knows how – with coffee.

To celebrate the joy and warmth of the season, Dunkin' Donuts offered the first 500 guests at its 6830 S. Crescent Blvd location a free medium hot coffee on Dec. 20. In addition, Dunkin' Donuts helped to bring joy to local children whose lives are affected by hunger by making a \$1,000 donation to the Pennsauken-based Food Bank of South Jersey. Philadelphia Eagles cheerleaders and mascot Swoop joined representatives from Dunkin' Brands to present the donation.

"We are so excited to be out here and celebrating in Pennsauken," says Jessica Weissman, Greater Philadelphia field marketing manager for Dunkin' Donuts. "This is all about our 'Brewing Joy' campaign. We're [doing that] the best way we know how: with free coffee. In addition, the very exciting piece of this is giving back to the community. Dunkin' Donuts, the franchisees in this region, are dedicated to fighting hunger."

"Dunkin' Donuts is brewing joy, but they're also brewing hope in South Jersey," adds Tom Simms, chief development officer, Food Bank of South Jersey. "This is the community getting together and doing beautiful things on behalf the



As part of the second annual "Brewing Joy" program, Dunkin' Donuts made a \$1,000 donation to the Food Bank of South Jersey. Pictured here are Carmen Didonato, "Cuppy," Raj Marvania, Jessica Weissman, Swoop, Lavina Awosanya, Tom Sims, Danny Saparia, Adrian Sheffield, and Philadelphia Eagles cheerleaders Deseria and Anna-Marie.

folks that are most in need. Thank you so much to Dunkin' Donuts for doing this."

The free coffee and donation are part of Dunkin' Donuts' national "Brewing Joy" program, in which 23 cities across

the country will be celebrating the joy of the season by offering Dunkin' Donuts' signature hot coffee for free at select stores, donating \$25,000 to local organizations to help bring joy to local children.

Celebrating That Special Time Of Year

Last month, the Pennsauken Fire Department held its annual Breakfast with Santa for its members and their families at Fire Station 1. Thank you for another year of service to Pennsauken! Photo credit: Twitter, @PennsaukenFire.



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inSports Killion Sisters Inducted Into CACC Hall Of Fame

Pennsauken's Kelly and Kim Killion, along with the 2007-08 Holy Family University women's basketball team, were officially inducted into the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Hall of Fame in December, with a pregame ceremony held prior to the Tigers' conference game versus city rival University of the Sciences. The members of the 2007-08 team returned to where it all started, as CACC Commissioner Dan Mara was on hand in the Campus Center Gymnasium to formally induct the team into the conference's Hall of Fame as part of the 2017-18 Class.

"It's a humbling and tremendous honor," says Kelly. "Our team had a family dynamic and still does. It's great to be in-



Pennsauken's Kelly and Kim Killion were recently inducted with the 2007-08 Holy Family University women's basketball team into the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Hall of Fame.

ducted with my teammates; and to be inducted with my sister is extremely special." "When I got word [we were inducted],

I was speechless," adds Kim. "It's a great accomplishment that not many people are lucky enough to receive."

One of the most decorative team in the program's history, the 2007-08 team finished the regular season 28-0 overall and 18-0 in conference play as the only team in the Northeast Region (now known as the East Region) to finish undefeated prior to the start of the postseason. The Tigers went on to win their sixth CACC Tournament title and as a result became the first team in the CACC to earn the number one seed and host the NCAA Northeast Regional.

Holy Family went on to defeat Molloy College and Assumption College in the first two rounds of the regional to advance to the final, becoming the first team in the CACC to do so in the Division II era. The Tigers saw their season

come to an end, falling to Franklin Pierce University in the regional final.

A senior during that season, Kelly was named the CACC Player of the Year and received All-CACC first team honors. In addition, one of her assistant coaches was her sister, Kim.

"On the court, Kelly and I were always making each other better. As her coach, she was very receptive," explains Kim. "I wanted to help her and the team. She knew I had to step into a different role."

"We were so competitive as players; but when that dynamic shifted, I respected her as a coach and she respected me as a player," adds Kelly. "It was different at first, but it turned out to be very cool and very unique."

It's been a decade since that 32-game winning streak. Kelly is now an assistant basketball coach at University of Pennsylvania; Kim is an assistant basketball coach at Pennsauken High School. But the bonds of the team at Holy Family University are still very strong.

"We're still very tight. Some of us still talk daily," says Kelly. "We loved the game and loved who we played with."

"It's one of my best experiences ever. It's not every day you can coach girls to be the best they can be and they go 32 and 1," continues Kim. "We were like family. Everything clicked. There are relationships from that team that I'll never forget. It's unbelievable."

PYAA SPORTS

PYAA Spring Intramural Soccer Registration Begins This Month

Boys and girls from Pennsauken and Merchantville are invited to join PYAA Boys and Girls Spring Intramural Soccer.

Online registration begins Monday, Jan. 15 and ends on Sunday, Feb. 18. There will be no in-person registration this season. For children born on or after December 31, 2012, the cost is \$75; for children born before December 31, 2012, the cost is \$90.

Coaches and assistant coaches are also needed. If individuals are available one hour a week to hold a practice and one hour an evening for the actual game, it would be a great help. If more people get involved, they can be paired to help spread the responsibility.

To register, visit PYAAsoccer.nj.com. For questions or more info, e-mail pyaasoccer.nj@gmail.com.

Softball And Baseball Sign-Ups Start In February

PYAA Softball and Baseball sign-ups will be held Monday through Thursday from Feb. 19 to March 8 at the PYAA Field House, 3501 Elm Ave. Softball will have no online sign-ups.

For more information, visit PYAA.net.

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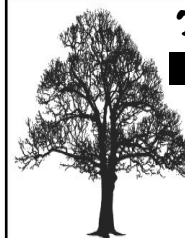
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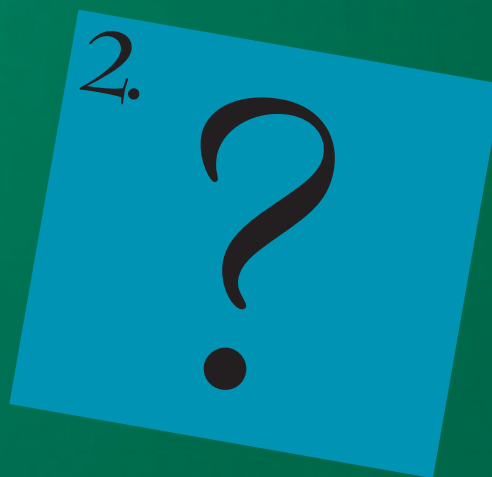


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Resolutions

Pre-plan for the future this New Year



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